

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.111, reconsideration of the instant application, as amended herewith, is respectfully requested. Entry of the amendment is requested.

Claims 9-16 are presently pending before the Office. No claims have been canceled. Applicant has amended the specification, the claims and the drawings. No new matter has been added. Applicant is not intending in any manner to narrow the scope of the originally filed claims.

The Examiner's Action mailed April 26, 2004 (Paper No. not indicated) and the references cited therein have been carefully studied by Applicant and the undersigned counsel. The amendments appearing herein and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 9-16 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,419,748 to Applicant herein. Applicant herein submits a terminal disclaimer.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as the furnace part of the process showing the blade materials being directed from the take-up reels to the baking furnace was lacking in the drawings. Accordingly, Fig. 1 has been amended and a replacement sheet has been attached herein.

Relying on 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the Office has rejected the subject matter of claims 9 and 13 alleging confusion over the inconsistent references to rolls versus rollers and over the different ways of referring to the same blade materials. Applicant herein amends claims 9, 10, and 12-14 to clarify the features being referenced in the claims.

CONCLUSION

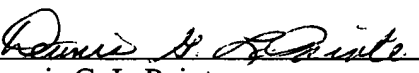
Even though the initial claims in this important patent application were drawn to a new, useful and nonobvious invention, they have now been amended to increase their specificity of language. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-16 are patentable over the art of record.

A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If the Office is not fully persuaded as to the merits of Applicant's position, or if an Examiner's Amendment would place the pending claims in condition for allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 538-3800 would be appreciated.

Very respectfully,

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